

ABSTRACT

**INTEGRATED METHOD FOR CREATING A REFRESHABLE
WEB QUERY**

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10 The present invention allows a user to graphically create a
refreshable Web Query by selecting tabular data displayed in a Web page. When
the user invokes the refreshable Web Query command, an Internet browser
module is launched within a Web Query dialog box open in the spreadsheet
program. The user then graphically selects at least one instance of tabular data
to import to the spreadsheet program. The invention also makes Web queries
more accessible to a user and is embedded in a software utility, known as a Web
Query Smart Tag (WQST) utility. The WQST utility allows a user to create Web
15 queries directly from an Internet browser module in one of several methods. The
first method, known as a "Copy-Paste Web Query," begins when a user pastes
the tabular data into the spreadsheet program and determines whether the Web
Query command should be presented to the user. If the decision is made to
present the Web Query command to the user, a Web Query option appears on a
20 special drop-down menu. The second method is embedded in a module known
as the "Export to Microsoft Excel" module, which allows a user to create a
refreshable Web Query in the MICROSOFT EXCEL 2002 spreadsheet program
directly from the MICROSOFT INTERNET EXPLORER browser program. The
last method is known as the "Edit with Microsoft Excel" method, which allows a
25 user to open the entire file or choose a portion of the file to import into the
MICROSOFT EXCEL 2002 spreadsheet program as a refreshable Web Query.